

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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46

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-03 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 SY-10 FBIE-00 CU-04 DRC-01

/109 W

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P 111540Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0008

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL SANTO DOMINGO 1013

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CU, DR

SUBJECT: CUBAN ATHLETE GRANTED POLITICAL ASYLUM BY CHILEAN EMBASSY

1. 23 YEAR OLD CUBAN TENNIS STAR ALEIDA SPEK SOUGHT AND WAS PROMPTLY GRANTED POLITICAL ASYLUM IN CHILEAN EMBASSY DURING LATE EVENING OF MARCH 8. EVENT GIVEN PROMINENT LOCAL MEDIA COVERAGE FOLLOWING DAY. ACCORDING TO PRESS, MISS SPEK, WHO HAD JUST FINISHED WINNING FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD PLACE MEDALS AT THE XII CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN GAMES, SAID SHE WAS NOT A COMMUNIST AND NO LONGER WANTED TO LIVE UNDER THE COMMUNIST SYSTEM IMPOSED BY FIDEL CASTRO. CHILEAN CHARGE D' AFFAIRES HAS REQUESTED SAFE CONDUCT FOR THE TENNIS STAR FROM DOMINICAN FOREIGN SECRETARIAT WHICH REPORTEDLY WILL CONSIDER CASE TODAY (MARCH 11). AP DESPATCH FROM SANTIAGO RECEIVED HERE MORNING OF MARCH 9 INDICATED THAT CHILEAN GOVERNMENT MOVED QUICKLY TO GRANT ASYLUM. ALACRITY OF CHILEAN RESPONSE HAS GIVEN RISE TO LOCAL SPECULATION THAT DEFECTION WAS NOT TOTALLY UNEXPECTED.

2. MISS SPEK'S DEFECTON CAME ON HEELS OF RUMORS IN SANTO DOMINGO DURING PAST WEEK OF OTHER CUBAN ATHLETES ALLEGEDLY THINKING OF SEEKING ASYLUM DURING THE TWELFTH GAMES. THERE HAS, HOWEVER, BEEN NO OTHER DEFECTON TO DATE.

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3. THE PRESIDENT OF THE CUBAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, MANUEL GONZALEZ GUERRA, WHO IS HERE WITH THE CUBAN TEAM, CALLED SPEK A "TRAITOR" AND ALLEGED THAT "US IMPERIALISM" WAS BEHIND HER ACTION. HE DID NOT ELUCIDATE ON THIS ALLEGATION, HOWEVER.

4. COMMENT: MISS SPEK'S DEFECTION HAS REPORTEDLY CAUSED CONSIDERABLE CONSTERNATION AMONG LEADERS OF CUBAN DELEGATION WHO HAVE BEEN MAINTAINING TIGHT SECURITY MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO MEMBERS OF CUBAN TEAM.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL ASYLUM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CUBAN ATHLETE GRANTED POLITICAL ASYLUM BY CHILEAN EMBASSY  
**TAGS:** PINS, CU, DR, (SPEK, ALEIDA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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